



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

Friday, 19th September, 2025

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us about the value of being trustworthy people. We can show this by making good choices .

*Dear Lord Jesus,*

*Help us use our gifts well – to be your trustworthy sons and daughters who always put you first in our lives.*

*Amen.*

The Sunday liturgy is available weekly on the Wednesday Word by following the link on the school website <https://www.stmaryscps.co.uk/wednesday-word/>



## In school next week...

### Harvest Time in Scarisbrick

Harvest is a special time for our community—a moment to reflect on gratitude, generosity, and the importance of sharing. Here at St Mary's, we are excited to celebrate this season together with:

**A Harvest Food Collection:** We are inviting families to donate non-perishable food items. For example, tinned goods (soups, vegetables, beans, meats), pasta, rice, and cereals. Your contributions will be collected throughout the week beginning 22nd September. Your generous donations will be shared with our local food bank to support those in need.

**Creative Classroom Projects:** Each class will be working on a harvest theme, and we can't wait to see the beautiful pieces of artwork they create. The artwork will be displayed in the church for all to enjoy throughout the week.

**Mass of Thanksgiving:** Every member of our school family is warmly invited to a Mass of Thanksgiving on *Sunday, 28th September at 9am in St Elizabeth's Church* which we will celebrate with Bishop John. The children's artwork and your kind donations will be proudly displayed in the church as part of the celebration. This is a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together in faith and gratitude.

We look forward to celebrating this season of giving and growth with our whole school community.



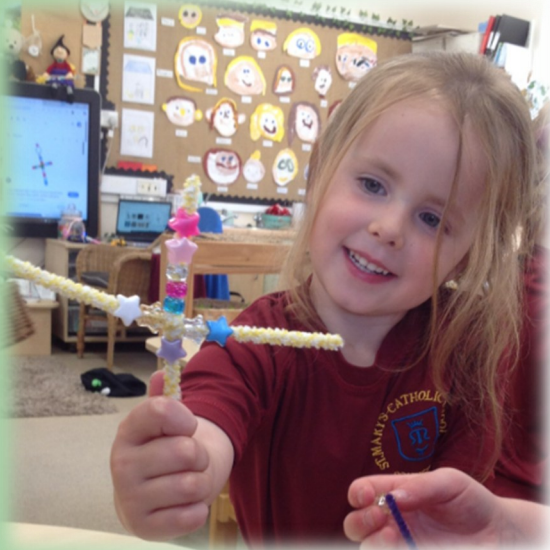
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## Class 1 'Shining Stars'

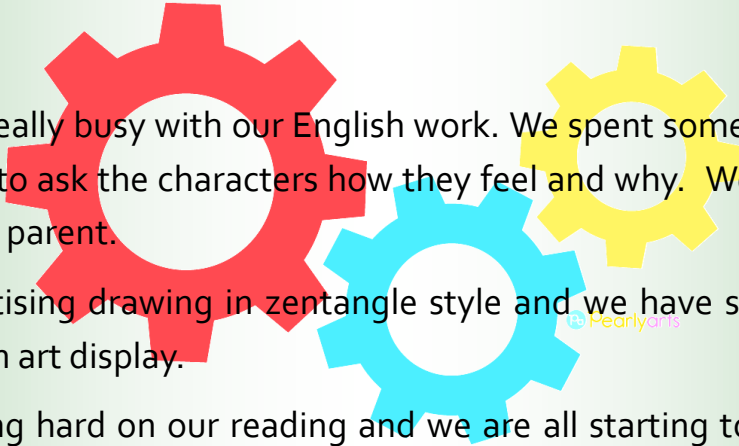
In RE this week, Class 1 have been discussing the meaning behind the Sign of the Cross. We talked about what a prayer is and when we might say one. The children suggested we should say prayers to think about someone, or to say thank you for something. We then made our own crosses with beads and pipe cleaners to take and use at home.

The children have loved watching the apples on our apple tree grow and change over the summer. This week, the children chose to pick some of the juiciest looking apples from the tree. We discussed what we could do with them and the children decided on making an apple crumble! The children in Class 1 worked together to write a list of ingredients that they would need, peel and chop the apples and even rub the butter and flour to make the crumble. The whole school smelt beautiful and everyone is super excited to try!





## Class 2 'Trailblazers'



This week we have been really busy with our English work. We spent some time recapping our story and did some hot seating to ask the characters how they feel and why. We then wrote some diaries first as Wilf and then as his parent.

In Art we have been practising drawing in zentangle style and we have started creating zentangle leaves ready for an autumn art display.

We have also been working hard on our reading and we are all starting to move along our reading challenge chart. A big thanks to Mrs Hesketh and Mrs Crook for coming in every week to read with us. Remember to read lots at home too so you keep moving up our reading challenge!





## Class 3 'Bright Sparks'



The children in Class 3 are continuing to shine! This week we have been exploring some interesting and exciting vocabulary in English. We used this adventurous vocabulary to create our own setting descriptions.

The children enjoyed being budding historians this week, researching the Mayan civilisation and sharing their knowledge with staff and children.



Class 3 are working hard on their reading challenges, more than half of the class have started on their journey to the top!





## Celebration Assembly

	Special Award -	Good Work Award
Class 1	Elsie G	Joe R
Class 2	James S	Ella C-Mc
Class 3	Connie R	Poppy G
Headteacher's award	Emma O	Isaac F
Mathematician of the week	James R	
Presentation award	Ella R	
Attendance Award	Class 2 - 97.65%	



## Attendance



### Attendance for the week ending 19.09.25

	No. of pupils	Attendance (%)	Rank
Class 1	16	91.08%	3
Class 2	17	97.65%	1
Class 3	22	94.09%	2



## Dates for your diary

Monday, 22nd Sept	Harvest donations will be collected throughout the week beginning 22nd September
Friday, 26th Sept	Macmillan Afternoon Tea (3:30-4:15pm)
Sunday, 28th Sept	Harvest Festival Mass (9am in St Elizabeth's Church)
Monday, 29th Sept	Parents invited to join us at our staff meeting to organise PTA events
Thursday, 2nd October	Flu vaccinations (in school)
W/ B 6th October	Year 5 Bikeability
Friday, 17th October	Mufti day for Halloween treats
Wednesday, 22nd October	Spooky Bingo (3:30pm)

*Have a wonderful weekend! From Mrs Preston & the staff of St Mary's*



# SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PRIMARY

SOUTH

Do you have a child starting  
primary school in September 2026  
and living in Lancashire?

**Closing date: 15 January 2026**

You **must** apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school,  
or the school is linked to your child's nursery.

Apply for a school place now by scanning  
the QR code or visit [lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://lancashire.gov.uk/schools)



If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference,  
please check the guidance on our website, or call 01772 532109.

HAVE  
YOUR SAY

*Between 1 October and 31 January schools are consulting with  
you to make sure admission arrangements meet future needs.  
To find out more please visit [www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces)  
and click 'school admission policies'.*

[lancashire.gov.uk](http://lancashire.gov.uk)



**Lancashire**  
County  
Council 

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
**AUTUMN TERM 2025**  
**TO KNOW YOU MORE CLEARLY**

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Our classes will be studying the new Religious Education Directory curriculum that covers the themes of 'Creation and Covenant' and 'Prophecy and Promise'.

**CREATION AND COVENANT**

*(3<sup>rd</sup> September – 24<sup>th</sup> October)*

**Class 1 CREATION AND COVENANT**

- the whole of creation shows God love for us.
- we enter God's family, the Church, through baptism.

**Class 2 CREATION AND COVENANT**

- Retell the story of Noah
- The sacrament of baptism is when a person becomes part of the Christian family and promises to love God.

**Class 3 CREATION AND COVENANT**

- The Story of Abraham, Sarah & Isaac
- The virtues of faith, hope and love.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR  
HOME ACTIVITIES**

*Find some of God's creations  
when you are out and about.*

**PROPHECY AND PROMISE**

*(3<sup>rd</sup> November – 19<sup>th</sup> December)*

**Class 1 PROPHECY AND PROMISE**

- Celebrate Advent, it is a time to get ready for Christmas
- Mary was chosen by God to give birth to his son.

**Class 2 PROPHECY AND PROMISE**

- Advent is the season when Christians prepare for the coming of Jesus.
- The stories of the Annunciation, The Visitation & the birth of Jesus

**Class 3 PROPHECY AND PROMISE**

- Advent is a time of preparation for Jesus' incarnation at Christmas.
- The prophets John the Baptist & Elijah.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR  
HOME ACTIVITIES**

*Find out about some  
Christian symbols for  
Advent e.g. Advent  
wreath, calendar, Jesse  
tree.*

*Use the CAFOD or Mission  
websites to get a religious  
Advent calendar.*

# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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## Religious Education Autumn Term Newsletter 2025-26

### **Important dates this term**

#### **WELCOME MASS**

(7<sup>th</sup> September)

St Elizabeth's Church at 9.00am for families and children from Nursery - Y6.

#### **HARVEST MASS**

(28<sup>th</sup> September)

St Elizabeth's Church at 9.00am for families and children from Nursery - Y6.

#### **WHOLE SCHOOL MASS**

(3<sup>rd</sup> October)

St Elizabeth's Church at 9.30am for families and children from Nursery - Y6.

#### **ALL SAINTS**

(1st November)

We celebrate the lives of special and ordinary people who have responded to God's invitation to love.

#### **THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)**

(2nd November)

Today and throughout the rest of November, we pray for those who have died. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

#### **REMEMBRANCE DAY**

(11th November – 9.15am)

The children of Class 3 will lead a service for Remembrance Day for all school pupils and families at 9.15am.

#### **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING**

(24th November)

#### **ADVENT**

(Begins 1st December)

Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing.

Whole School Mass – Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December in St Elizabeth's Church at 9.30am for families and children from Nursery - Y6.

#### **THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

(8th December)

This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and co-operated with God throughout her life.

#### **CLASS 1 CHRISTMAS NATIVITY**

(16<sup>th</sup> December – 9.30am & 2.30pm)

The EYFS children will present the story of the first Christmas for families and children from Class 1.

#### **CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

(25th December)

# School Parking

## Have you considered:

- Walking or cycling to school instead? This is a great way to contribute to a child's 60 minutes of activity a day and is easy to incorporate into your daily routine. Try it once a week at first and see how easy it can be.
- Parking nearby or getting off the bus two stops earlier and walking the rest of the way. If you live too far away to walk or need your car for your commute to work you can still walk part of the way. Adults in England should aim to take part in at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity each week.
- Car sharing is a great way to reduce congestion and save you pennies. Team up with other parents or carers who live nearby- share the cost and halve the hassle.

If you have a parking concern outside of your school report it to [parking@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:parking@lancashire.gov.uk)

For more information on this leaflet please email the Road Safety Team at [roadsafetyschool@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:roadsafetyschool@lancashire.gov.uk)



**Better Health** healthier families

Sign up at [nhs.uk/betterhealth](https://nhs.uk/betterhealth)



[lancashire.gov.uk](https://lancashire.gov.uk)



## A Guide to Parking Safely at Our Schools

Inconsiderate and dangerous parking around our schools has become a big problem, putting the safety of children and others at risk. We all want to keep our children safe around schools, so here are some top tips on how you can make a difference.

### How can you help?

- ✓ Keep your speed down
- ✓ Turn your engine off - do not idle
- ✓ Leave the middle of the road free, with enough room for other road users to easily pass through
- ✓ Make sure your child leaves and enters your vehicle safely onto the pavement
- ✓ Check for pedestrians and cyclists before opening a car door
- ✓ Leave enough room on pavements for pedestrians, pushchairs & wheelchairs to get past
- ✓ Take care when reversing
- ✓ DO NOT PARK ON ZIG ZAG LINES

Please keep restricted areas clear

- ✓ Zig zags and school entrances
- ✓ Dropped kerbs
- ✓ Resident's driveways
- ✓ Opposite or within 10 metres of a junction- so that children can see cars and cars can see children.

### Your questions answered

What would happen if I did park in a restricted area?

If you park in a restricted area you are putting children's lives in danger and for this reason school parking is regularly monitored and enforced. If you park in a restricted area you could receive a £70 fine.

Am I okay to stop on zig zag markings if I am only there a few minutes?

No, under no circumstances should you stop on zig zag markings at any time, these are there to protect school entrances and leave a clear view of the street for pedestrians.

**Please park considerably around our schools and keep our children safe!**

Don't forget...

Congestion around schools is one of the main reasons given for dangerous parking and there are other ways you could do the school run...



**Never park on zig zags or block school entrances**

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**St Mary's School Holiday Dates 2025/ 26**

**Autumn Term 2025**

**INSET:** Monday 1 September 2025

**INSET:** Tuesday 2 September 2025

Mid Term Closure: Monday 27 October- Friday 31 October 2025 (inclusive)

Closure after school on: Friday 19 December 2025

Number of openings: **75**

**Spring Term 2026**

Re-open on: Monday 5 January 2026

Mid Term Closure: Monday 16 February - Friday 20 February 2026 (inclusive)

Closure after school on: Friday 27 March 2026

Number of openings: **55**

**Summer Term 2026**

Re-open on: Monday 13 April 2026

May Day Closure: Monday 4 May 2026

Mid Term Closure: Monday 25 May - Friday 5 June 2026

Closure after school on: Monday 27 July 2026

**INSET:** Thursday, 23 July 2026

**INSET:** Friday, 24 July 2026

**INSET:** Monday, 27 July 2026

Number of openings: **65**

**Total number of openings – 195**

**(190 days for pupil + 5 INSET days for staff)**